USDA Forest Service
Interagency Aviation Training Guide
Appendix 1 - Forest Service Requirements

This is to clarify requirements for Interagency Aviation Training (IAT) for the Forest Service. This appendix is to address agency specific requirements in the IAT Guide. Additional guidance to the IAT GUIDE for the Forest Service is underlined in blue text below.

Interagency Aviation Training does not replace National Wildfire Coordination Group (NWCG) training requirements. Individuals qualified in fire positions under NWCG PMS 310-1 are not required to take duplicate training under IAT, unless specified by NWCG. Individuals holding a current certification under the Incident Qualification and Certification System (a performance based system) are also qualified to perform equivalent non-fire/resource aviation project positions under IAT guidelines and do not require additional IAT identified training.

Agency Certification

Two levels of training have been identified. The first level, "required training," is mandatory as specified for each aviation position. Modules in the second level, "additional requirements," will be specified by individual DOI bureau/Forest Service policy. The Forest Service has no additional requirements at this time. This may change after the initial implementation phase of IAT; however, local units may require additional training requirements.

Forest Service and DOI bureau aviation managers are authorized to initially certify Interagency Aviation Training qualifications of existing employees who meet the current certification standards for aviation positions within their organizations *(grandfathering)*. The currency cycle for employee refresher training is not affected by this grandfathering certification. Grandfathering (identification of equivalencies) will be determined and documented at the local level. Forest/Unit Aviation Officers will recommend initial certification to the local line officer for unit level approval. See Example crosswalk chart, last page.

Aviation Positions

These positions require a level of specific skills and knowledge to perform aviation duties and ensure safety. Personnel should be assigned only to positions in which they have been successfully trained. It is up to the Forest Service and each DOI bureau to determine positions based on organizational needs and mission objectives.

Forest Service Line Officers at the unit level should determine and document which of the following aviation positions are required to provide a safe working environment for aviation projects under their authority in accordance with FSM 5711.

1. Aircrew Member
2. Aviation Dispatcher
3. Aviation Manager
4. Aviation Technical Specialist
5. Contracting Officer's Representative (COR)/Project Inspector (PI)
6. Fixed-Wing Flight Manager
7. Fixed-Wing Flight Manager - Special Use
8. Helicopter Flight Manager
9. Helicopter Manager - Resource
10. Passenger
11. Project Aviation Manager
12. Supervisor

Aircrew Member - Person working in and around aircraft and is essential to ensure the safety and successful outcome of the mission. Aircrew members are required to either be on board or attend to the loading and unloading of passengers and cargo at all landings and takeoffs, and to ensure that passengers have received a safety briefing prior to all non-point-to-point missions. Positions may include resource specialist on aerial reconnaissance mission, spotter, and IR technician. This person may function under the direction of the fixed-wing flight manager or helicopter manager.

Fixed-Wing Flight Manager (FWFM) – This position was previously known to the Forest Service as Chief of Party. A Government representative who works jointly with the pilot-in-command and aircrew members to ensure safe, efficient flight management on point-to-point flights. Some agencies previously referred to this position as "Chief of Party." This position does not include special-use operations. The Forest Service does not require these courses to be taken in the classroom and will qualify this position with the courses that are available on-line. Currently there is one module (A-116) not available on-line, this module will be waived until it is available. Those who took the "Chief of Party" training in 2002-2004 are qualified as FWFM and are required to take the FWFM module when currency requirements are due (3-Years) See FSH 5709.16, 31.22a Fixed-Wing Flight Manager.

Required Training - (3) = recurrency every three years, (1) = recurrency annually
A-101 (3) Aviation Safety
A-105 (3) Aviation Life Support Equipment
A-106 (3) Aviation Mishap Reporting
A-108 (3) Preflight Checklist and Briefing/Debriefing
A-110 (3) Aviation Transportation of Hazardous Materials (if involved in transport of hazardous materials)
A-111 (3) Flight Payment Document

A-112 (3) Mission Planning and Flight Request Process
A-113 (3) Crash Survival
A-116 General Awareness Security Training
A-200 (1) Annual Mishap Review (Take the most recent module available on-line)

Fixed-Wing Flight Manager – Special Use - Government representative who works jointly with the pilot-in-command and aircrew members to ensure safe, efficient flight management of missions other than point-to-point flying, i.e infrared, aerial survey, aerial photo, sketch mapping, landing at backcountry airstrips (except Alaska), reconnaissance below 500 feet and other missions requiring special training and/or equipment.

Helicopter Flight Manager - Individual who supervises missions such as transport of personnel from one developed heliport/airport to another developed helicopter/airport, low- and high-level reconnaissance, and landings or takeoffs at unimproved landing sites. Forest Service will only use this position with a qualified helicopter manager overseeing operations.

Helicopter Manager Resource - Responsible for coordinating, scheduling, managing, and supervising non-fire resource helicopter operations. Fire helicopter manager training and experience requirements are found in the PMS 310-1 and specific agency and bureau policies. Qualified Fire Helicopter Managers under PMS 310-1 are qualified as Helicopter Manager Resource. Forest Service will require a Task Book for Helicopter Manager Resource. Task book is currently under development, until available use the NWCG task book NFES 2328 PMS 311-21 and disregard the requirement for a fire assignment. A Helicopter Manager is required for all Forest Service Helicopter operations.

Supervisor - Those who supervise employees who use aircraft to accomplish agency programs (first-and second-line supervisors as determined by the agency). Forest Service positions may include: Unit Aviation Officers who directly supervise aviation operations; group leaders and managers who supervise employees who conduct aerial surveys, photo missions, snow surveys, avalanche control, aerial spraying, law enforcement operations, and specialized aviation operations which includes utilization of backcountry airstrips.

Forest Service Instructor Qualification Process:

A-220 Train-The-Trainer. Interagency aviation trainer (IAT) qualification. This 35-hour course is designed to provide training to select employees with aviation and training backgrounds to qualify them as IATs. Once qualified, these trainers will have the capability to present the 100 level courses in the IAT curriculum. Emphasis is on increasing program knowledge and enhancing presentation skills. Prior attendance at an instructor's training course is strongly encouraged. Requires attendance (FS on-line) at a B-3 class (A-101, A-105, A-106, A-108, A-113) within the past 12 months.

A-221 Advanced Trainer Competency. This course is designed to provide master trainers the opportunity for certification as an interagency aviation trainer (IAT) by demonstrating their skills in delivery, subject matter expertise, needs analysis, and

evaluation in compliance with IAT competency and performance training standards as they relate to basic aviation courses. Attendance at this course is limited to instructors who have previously completed a 40-hour instructor course: M-410 Facilitative instructor, Fire Instructor I, or the equivalent. This is an 8 hour course that will familiarize instructors with interagency policy and administration of the IAT website for instructors.

A-222 Interagency Aviation Trainer Currency. This module includes (1) policy updates relevant to interagency aviation trainers and (2) training techniques IATs can use to sharpen their instructor skills. Trainers are required to take this module every 3 years after qualifying as an IAT. Forest Service does not endorse this requirement at this time. We will provide instructors with policy changes through e-mail.

After an instructor has completed the IAT Instructor training (A-220 or A-221), contact the Aviation Safety Center to schedule initial certification.

When a request is received the Aviation Safety Center will provide an administrative reviewer. The administrator will review the instructor and complete the *Presentation Evaluation for IAT Trainers* form and forward to the Aviation Safety Center.

Upon receiving a satisfactory recommendation, the Aviation Safety Center will provide instructor access to the IAT Instructor database. Contact the Aviation Safety Center at 208-387-5285 or 208-387-5607.

IAMS to IAT Crosswalk - see FSH 5109.17

/s/ Ron Hanks
National Aviation Safety and Training Manager

EXAMPLE				
IAT Initial Certification Crosswalk to IAT Project Aviation Positions				
NWCG /FSH 5109.17 Qualification		Employed Daily Position (EDP)		Grand-fathered IAT Project Qualification
HECM	or	Smokejumper, Pilot, IR Technician, recon, detection	=	Aircrew Member
IADP	or	IA & Aviation Dispatcher	=	Aviation Dispatcher
AOBD, ASGS, ATGS, HLCO, HEB2	or	One who currently is responsible for Aviation Program Oversight, such as an Regional Aviation Officer, Regional Aviation Safety Manager, Fire Management Officer (FMO), Deputy/Assistant FMO, Forest/Unit Aviation Officer (FAO/UAO)…	=	Aviation Manager
None	or	Helicopter Operations Specialist, Helicopter/Fixed wing Inspector Pilot, Aircraft Program Manager, Aviation Management Inspector	=	Aviation Technical Specialist
HELM	or	Smokejumper Spotter, Air Tanker Base Manager	=	Contracting Officer's Representative (COR)/Project Inspector (PI)
AOBS, ATGS, HLCO, HELM	or	Smokejumper Spotter. Those who have had Aviation Chief of Party Training in 2002, 2003 or 2004.	=	Fixed-Wing Flight Manager
AOBS, ATGS, HLCO, HELM	or	Smokejumper Spotter, FHP Aerial Surveyor	=	Fixed-Wing Flight Manager - Special Use
HELM	or	None	=	Helicopter Flight Manager
HELM	or	None	=	Helicopter Manager - Resource
None		None		Passenger
AOBD	or	FAO/UAO, Helicopter Superintendents & Assistants, Smokejumper Base Managers & Assistants, Aviation Program Managers, Other Managers who have had IAMS or ACE training	=	Project Aviation Manager
None	or	None	=	Supervisor